

THE PRINCIPAL
A C T S
OF THE
General Assembly
OF THE
C H U R C H
OF
S C O T L A N D,

Conveened at *Edinburgh* the 3d Day of May 1733.

Collected and Extracted from the Records, by the Clerk thereof.



E D I N B U R G H:

Printed by Mr. JAMES DAVIDSON and ROBERT FLEMING, Printers to the CHURCH of SCOTLAND, and sold at the said Mr. Davidson's Shop, 1733.



THE PRINCIPAL
A C T S
OF THE
General Assembly
OF THE
C H U R C H
O F
S C O T L A N D;

Holden and begun at *Edinburgh*, upon *Thursday* the
3d Day of *May* 1733, and ending the 15th Day of that
same Month and Year.

1.

*The KING's Commission to William Mar-
quis of Lothian, produced and ordered to
be recorded.*

At *Edinburgh*, 3d *May*, 1733, Sess. 1.



THE General Assembly of this National
Church being convened and constitut-
ed, there was produced to them by the
most Honourable *William Marquis of
Lothian*, his Majesty's Commission, seal-
ed with the Seal appointed by the Trea-
ty of Union to be kept and used in *Scot-
land*, in Place of the Great Seal of *Scot-
land*, making and constituting him his Majesty's High Com-
missioner and Representative in this Assembly, of the
same Tenor with the Commission granted to his Lord-
ship last Year; and the same being publickly read with
all due Honour and Respect, was appointed to be record-
ed in the Books of Assembly.

II. *The*

ENTR
The ACTS of the

IL

The KING's most Gracious Letter to the
General Assembly, presented to them by his
Majesty's Commissioner, May 3d, 1733,
Sess. I.

GEORGE R.



Ight Reverend and well beloved, We Greet
you well. The Proceedings of your former
Assemblies have given us so much Satisfac-
tion, that We most willingly countenance
your present Meeting with Our Royal Appro-
bation and Authority, and take this Opportunity of re-
newing the Assurances formerly given you, of Our fix'd
and unalterable Resolution, to maintain the Church of
Scotland in the full Enjoyment of all its Rights and
Privileges.

We are intirely satisfied of your Loyalty, Zeal and Af-
fection for Our Person and Government, and for Our Roy-
al Family; and We are as fully persuaded of your coming
together with the most sincere and hearty Intentions to
promote, as far as in you lies, the Honour and Glory of
God, the Peace and Prosperity of the Church, of which
you are Members, the Advancement of true Religion and
Virtue, and the Good of your Country: And in Order
thereunto, We most particularly recommend it to you,
to consult upon the proper Means of preventing the
Growth of Popery, and of suppressing all Profaneness
and Immorality.

Whilst you pursue these great and good Ends, you may
always depend upon Our Favour and Protection, and upon
Our ready Concurrence in such prudent Measures as may
most effectually answer such pious Purposes: And We make
no Doubt, but that your Debates will be conducted with
that Wisdom and Moderation, that Charity and brotherly
Love, becoming so venerable a Body, which under God,
will contribute more than any Thing else, to give Weight
to your Consultations, and Success to your Endeavours.

We have again appointed Our Right Trusty and entire-
ly beloved Cousin *William* Marquis of *Lothian*, to re-
present

present Our Royal Person in your Assembly, who has, on all Occasions, given such Proofs of his Loyalty to Us, and Zeal for Our Service, of his affectionate Concern for the Church of Scotland, and his Abilities for the Discharge of so great a Trust, that We assure Ourselves the Choice We have made of him, will be agreeable to you, and that you on your Part will, with the greatest Chearfulness, give him all the Assistance in your Power, towards the bringing of this your Meeting to a happy Conclusion. And so We bid you heartily Farewel. Given at Our Court at St. James's, the 20th Day of April, 1733, in the Sixth Year of Our Reign.

By his Majesty's Command,

HOLIES NEWCASTLE.

Directed, this,

To the Right Reverend and
Well-beloved, The Moderator,
Ministers and Elders of the
General Assembly of the
Church of Scotland.

III.

*The General Assembly's Answer to the King's
most gracious Letter.*

Edinburgh, May 5th, 1733, Sess. 3.

May it please your Majesty,



T is with the greatest Joy, we understand by your Majesty's most gracious Letter, that the Proceedings of our former Assemblies have given so much Satisfaction to your Majesty, that you are now graciously pleased to countenance our present Meeting with your Royal Approbation and Authority; and to renew the Assurances formerly given us of your fix'd and unalterable Resolution, to maintain this National Church in all its Rights and Privileges.

B

As

As it is our unquestionable Duty, so it shall be our Study and Care, to express the most sincere Loyalty, Zeal and Affection for your Majesty's Person and Government, and for your Royal Family.

As we are now met together by the good Providence of God, and under the Protection of your Majesty's Authority, so we shall sincerely and heartily, thro' Divine Grace, endeavour to promote, as far as in us lies, the Honour and Glory of God, the Peace and Prosperity of the Church of which we are Members, the Advancement of true Religion and Virtue, and the Good of our Country; and in order thereunto, we shall, according to your Majesty's gracious Recommendation, consult upon the proper Means of preventing the Growth of Popery, and suppressing all Prophaneness and Immorality.

We shall be much encouraged in pursuing these great and good Ends, by the Assurance your Majesty is pleased to give us, That while we do so, we may always depend upon your Royal Protection and Favour, and your ready Concurrence in such prudent Measures, as may most effectually answer such pious Purposes.

We hope that all our Consultations shall be conducted with that Prudence and Moderation, that Charity and brotherly Love, that becomes such a Body, which under God, and the gracious Influence of your Majesty's Countenance, will give Weight to our Determinations, and Success to our Endeavours.

The Loyalty and Zeal of the most Honourable the Marquis of *Lothian* for Your Majesty's Service, his affectionate Concern for the Church of *Scotland*, his Abilities for the Discharge of so great a Trust, of which we have had former Experience, make your Majesty's Choice of him to represent Your Royal Person in this Assembly, most acceptable to us: And we beg leave to assure Your Majesty, that nothing shall be wanting on our Part, to make the Discharge of his high Trust easy and agreeable to him.

We offer up our most unfeigned Thanks to our gracious God, that he has been pleased in his great Goodness, to place Your Majesty upon the Throne of Your Ancestors, which is so great a Blessing, not only to Your Majesty's own Dominions, but to all the Protestant Churches: And we fervently pray, That God may bless and long preserve Your Majesty, that You may be ever under the gracious Protection of his Providence and Conduct of his good Spirit; that he may bless and long preserve Your Royal Con-

Confort the Queen, his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, and all the Rest of the Royal Family: And that there may never be wanting one of your Royal House to sway the Scepter over us. These are, and shall be the Prayers of,

May it please your Majesty.

Your Majesty's most faithful, most obedient, and most loyal Subjects.

The Ministers and Elders met in the National Assembly of the Church of Scotland.

Signed in our Name, in our Presence, and at our Appointment, by

J. GOWDIE Moderator.

IV.

Commission to some Ministers and ruling Elders for Reformation of the Highlands and Islands of Scotland, and for Management of the King's Bounty for that End.

Edinburgh, May 14, 1733, ante merid. Sess. 10.



THE General Assembly finding, that diverse late General Assemblies had granted Commissions to some Ministers and ruling Elders for Reformation of the Highlands and Islands, and Management of his Majesty's Royal Bounty for that End; and the Assembly finding, that it has pleased our gracious Sovereign the King, out of his Royal Bounty, to renew his Grant of One thousand Pound Sterling for the End foresaid, therefore they do hereby nominate, commissionate and appoint Mr. John Gowdie one of the Ministers of Edinburgh their Moderator, Messrs. Niel

Campbel Principal of the College of Glasgow, *William Gusthart* at Edinburgh, *Thomas Linnen* at Lelmahago, *Niel M'Vicar* at West-kirk, *James Nasmyth* at Dalmenie, *Thomas Turnbull* at Greenlaw, *John Lawson* at Closeburn, *Walter Laurie* at Stranrawer, *James Robertson* at Ecclestone, *William Campbel* at Glenderule, *Robert Bisset* at Blair-Athol, *Josias Walker* at Abdie, *James Hadow* Principal of the new College at St. Andrews, *David Fergusson* at Farnwell, *William Merns* at Inch, *Lewis Chapman* at Alvie, *James Lesly* at Moy, *Hector M'Kenzie* at Fotherty, *Donald Ross* at Lochbroom, *James Walker* at Canongate, *James Smith* Professor of Divinity in the University of Edinburgh, *John Matthison* at Edinburgh, *George Fordyce* at Corstorphine, *John Spark* at Currie, *Patrick Cuming* at Edinburgh, *John M'Laren* there, *John Shaw* at South-Leith, *Samuel Semple* at Liberton, *John Thorburn* at Kirknewton, *James Nisbet* at Edinburgh, *John Guthrie* at Ratho, *David M'Colm* at Dudington, *George Logan* at Edinburgh, *James Banatyne* there, *Matthew Wood* there, *John Walker* at Canongate, *Matthew Crawford* Professor of Ecclesiastick History in the University of Edinburgh, *William Brown* at Edinburgh, *Robert Kinloch* there, *Alexander Ker* in the Castle there, *John Hepburn* at Edinburgh, *John Glen* there, *James Stevenson* at South-Leith, *George Lindsay* at North-Leith, *George Wilbart* at Edinburgh, *James Dawson* at West-kirk, and *Robert Hamilton* at Cramond, Ministers. The Right Honourable Sir *Hugh Dalrymple* of North-Berwick Baronet Lord President of the Session, *Dunoon Forbes* Esq; his Majesty's Advocate, *Adam Cockburn* of Ormistoun Lord Justice Clerk, Mr. *Hugh Dalrymple* of Drumore, Mr. *Patrick Campbel* of Monzie, and Mr. *Patrick Grant* of Elchies, three of the Senators of the College of Justice, Mr. *Charles Arskine* of Barjarg his Majesty's Solicitor, Mr. *Charles Erskine* of Edenshead, Colonel *John Erskine* of Carnock, *John Osburn* Esq; Lord Provost of Edinburgh, *Patrick Lindsay* Esq; late Provost of Edinburgh, *Archibald M'Aulay* Esq; Lord Conservator of the Scots Privileges at Campvere, *James Simson* one of the Baillies of Edinburgh, Sir *James Campbel* of Aberuchil, Baronet, Sir *Thomas Gordon* of Earlston, Baronet, Mr. *Robert Stewart* and Mr. *Colin Drummond* Professors of Philosophy in the College of Edinburgh, Mr. *George Buchan* of Camladge, *Hugh Hathorn* late Baillie of Edinburgh, Mr. *Albert Monro* of Coul, Mr. *Alexander M'Millan* of Dunmore, Mr. *Joseph Cave* Merchant in Edinburgh, *James Nim-*

General Assembly, 1733.

9

mo late Dean of Gild of Edinburgh, *Thomas Dundas* of Fingask late Baillie thereof, *Mr. Alexander Nisbet* of Northfield, *Mr. Alexander Belchies* of Innermay, *James Young* of Killicanty, Doctor *John Riddel* Physician, *Andrew Gardner* Merchant in Edinburgh, *Robert Inglis* Goldsmith there, *John Dunbar* Glover there, *Patrick M'Dowal* of Crichton, *William Cunningham* of Balindalloch, and *Nicol Spence* Agent for the Church, ruling Elders, to be a Committee of this Assembly for Reformation of the Highlands and Islands of Scotland, and for managing the Royal Bounty for the End foresaid, according to, and in Terms of his Majesty's Grant above mentioned; and do hereby renew the Powers granted to the said Committee by the 7th Act of the General Assembly, Anno 1732, and the whole Acts therein mentioned, in all Points. Any Seven of the foresaid Persons are declared to be a *Quorum*, whereof Four are always to be Ministers; and the foresaid Committee are appointed to have their Meetings in the Hall of the Society in Scotland for propagating Christian Knowledge, the last Thursday of every Month, at Three in the Afternoon; and also the first lawful Day after Adjournment of the foresaid Diets of the Commission of this Assembly, at Ten of the Clock Forenoon, except when it falls to be on Friday or Saturday, and then the Meeting is to be on the Monday next thereafter, with Power to adjourn themselves to such Times and Places as they shall find needful, and to keep a Correspondence with the Commission of this Assembly, and Society for propagating Christian Knowledge, and their Committee: And the General Assembly do hereby nominate and appoint *Mr. William Grant* Advocate, Procurator for the Church, to be Receiver of the foresaid Royal Bounty, and to pay out the same as he shall be directed, and ordered by the foresaid Committee, and according to their Rules.

C

V.

Ad

V.

ACT concerning some of the Ministers of the Presbytery of Dumfermline, and for preserving the Subordination of the Judicatures of the Church, and good Order therein.

Edinburgh, May 14th, 1733, ante merid. Scil. 10,

THE General Assembly having fully and maturely considered the Disobedience of Mr. James Wardlaw and Mr. Ralph Erskine at Dumfermline, Mr. John Gib at Cleish, Mr. Daniel Hunter at Carnock, Mr. John Geddes at Culross, and Mr. Thomas Mair at Orwal, Ministers of the Gospel, Members of the Presbytery of Dumfermline, to the Act of the General Assembly, dated the twelfth Day of May, One thousand seven hundred and thirty two, and several Acts of the Commission of the said Assembly, appointing the said Presbytery to install Mr. Robert Stark Minister of Kinross as a Member thereof, and the Behaviour and Conduct of the said Ministers before this Assembly, during their Procedure on the said Affairs, do judge to be highly contrary to, and utterly inconsistent with the Subordination of Judicatures, happily established among us, and the Duty they owe to the said Judicatures, which they had engaged to perform at their Ordination; and therefore deserving the highest Censures: Yet the Assembly, inclining to show all Tendernefs towards the said Brethren, they appoint them to be sharply rebuked in their Presence, and appoint, and command them to own Mr. Robert Stark as Minister of the Gospel at Kinross, to encourage and strengthen his Hands in the Lord's Work in the said Parish, and to discourage all Separation from, and Non-subjection to his Ministry. And the Assembly do hereby strictly inhibit and discharge the said Brethren from admitting any of the Parish of Kinross to sealing Ordinances, without the Consent of Mr. Robert Stark, according to the 12th Paragraph of the Act of Assembly, Feb. 7. 1645. And further the Assembly do hereby strictly discharge the offering, admitting, or receiving any Protest

Dissent by any Member of the said Presbytery, or other Person whatsoever, against the said Mr. Stark's sitting and acting in the Presbytery of *Dumfermline*, as a Member thereof, and Minister of *Kinross*. And they impower the Commission, to be appointed by them, to summon before them any Person or Persons, who shall offer any such Protest or Dissent; and also the said Presbytery, if they shall receive or admit the same, and censure the said Persons or Presbytery, as they shall see Cause. And in regard severals within the Bounds of the said Presbytery, do withdraw from the Ministry of their respective Pastors, therefore the Assembly does hereby enjoin the Observation of the Act of Assembly, dated the 24th Day of August 1647, against such as withdraw themselves from the publick Worship in their own Congregation; and ordains the foresaid Paragraph of the Act 1645, and the said Act 1647, to be publickly intimated by the Ministers of the Presbytery of *Dumfermline*, from their respective Pulpits, on any Lord's Day of June next, with suitable Exhortations. And the Assembly appoints the saids Ministers to appear before the Commission to meet in August next, and to report their Obedience to this whole Act and Appointment. And appoints and requires the said Commission in Case of Disobedience, or Non-compliance, to proceed to the highest Censures, if they see Occasion for it, then, or any subsequent Diet or Meeting of the Commission.

And because the Brethren, within the Bounds of the Presbytery of *Dumfermline*, who have done their Duty in obeying the Appointment of the Assembly, may be in Hazard of being discouraged in the Exercise of their Ministry, by Persons of a schismatical and divisive Temper, notwithstanding of what is contained in this present Act. Therefore the Assembly considering, that these Brethren deserve all Encouragement, do enjoin their Commission to receive any Complaint that may be offered by any of these Brethren, and to judge and censure as they shall see Cause, any Minister or Ministers, or others who shall give them Disturbance or Discouragement in their Work. And appoints this Act to be read in the first Meeting of the Presbytery of *Dumfermline*, and recorded in their Register. And that this Act be printed and published among the other Acts of the Assembly.

VI.

Commission to some Ministers and ruling Elders for discussing diverse Affairs referred to them.

Edinburgh, May 14th, 1733, ante merid. Sess. 10.



THE General Assembly taking to their Consideration, that there are divers weighty Affairs which they cannot overtake, do nominate, commissionate and appoint their Reverend Brethren, Mr. *John Gowdie* one of the Ministers of Edinburgh their Moderator, Messrs. *James Smith* at Creich, *Walter Ross* at Tongue, *William Innes* at Thurso, *William Scot* at Kirkwall, *Andrew Graham* at Firth, *John Scollay* at Stronsay, *James Grierson* at Tingwall, *John Bonar* at Fetler, *Charles Ferrey* at Campvere, *James Walker* at Cationgate, *Matthew Crawford* Professor of Ecclesiastick History in the College of Edinburgh, *John Mathison* at Edinburgh, *George Fordice* at Corstorphine, *John Spork* at Currie, *Patrick Cumming* at Edinburgh, *James Smith* Professor of Divinity in the University at Edinburgh, *James Houston* at Kirklistoun, *James Nasmyth* at Dalmenie, *Andrew Gloig* at West-Calder, *Alexander Wardrop* at Whiteburn, *James Forrester* at Coulter, *John Buchanan* at Covington, *James Robertson* at Ecclestoun, *Stephen Paton* at Newlands, *Alexander Johnston* at Lyne, *John Wilson* at Glencorrie, *James Burnet* at Lathwade, *William Robertson* at Borthwick, *William Hamilton* at Bolton, *James Witherspoon* at Yester, *Robert Blair* at Athelstonford, *James Glen* at Whittinghame, *George Buchanan* at Tynninghame, *Thomas Turnbull* at Greenlaw, *Matthew Dysart* at Eccles, *John Pow* at Coldstream, *George Home* at Chirnside, *Robert Bryden* at Coldingham, *John Pollock* at Roxburgh, *Thomas Pollock* at Ednam, *Robert Bell* at Crealline, *Robert Riccletton* at Hopkirk, *William Somervell* at Hawick, *James Kay* at Nenthorn, *John Gowdie* at Earlstoun, *Adam Miln* at Melrois, *Walter Stewart* at Ashkirk, *James McGarrach* at Ewes, *Alexander Orr* at Hodham, *David Wightman* at Applegirth, *Robert Yardin* at Lochmaben, *Gabriel Gulan* at Drysdale, *Simon Riddell* at Tynrom, *John*

John Lawson at Closeburn, James Guthrie at Irongray, Thomas McKinnel at Dunscore, Alexander Robertson at Tinwall, James Monteith at Borg, William McKie at Balmaghie, Robert Donaldson at Ballmaclellan, Alexander Anderson at Sorby, Thomas Campbell at Monygaff, Walter Lawrie at Stranrawer, Robert Fergusson at Calmunel, Alexander Kennedy at Straiton, William Cupples at Kirkoswald, John McDermitt at Air, Thomas Andrews at Monkton, George Reid at St. Quivox, William Reid at Stevenson, William M'Night at Irvine, James Semple at Dieghorn, Robert Miller at Paisly, David Turner at Greenock, David Brown at Port-Glasgow, Richard Henderson at Blantyre, Thomas Steel at Eyandale, Matthew Connel at Kilbryde, John Orr at Lanerk, Andrew Orr at Carluke, Robert Davidson at Crawford, John Hamilton at Glasgow, James Dick there, James Rob at Killyth, Neil Campbell Principal of the College of Glasgow, John Miller at Kilpatrick, George Sinclair at Baltrone, Archibald Sydeser at Dumbarton, William Campbell at Glendernie, Alexander McKay at Kilfinan, James Bots at Campbellton, Neil Simpson at Gigha, Alexander Campbell at Inverary, Patrick Campbell at Knapdale, Alexander Campbell at Glenurchy, James Campbell at Kilbrandon, John McClean at Arrois in Mull, Archibald Campbell at Morvern, Robert Bisset at Blair Athol, Alexander M'Laggon at Little Dunkeld, Robert Robertson at Kirkmichael, Adam Fergusson at Killin, Peter Pilmore at Forgan, James Mercer at Aberdalgie, James Mackie at Fort-teviot, John Moncrief at Rhind, John Taylor at Alloa, Charles Moor at Stirling, Henry Lindsay at Bothkenhar, William Hally at Muthill, Andrew Smith at Dunning, Aeneas Shaw at Comrie, Michael Potter at Kippen, Archibald Napier at Kilmadock, Robert Starr at Forrieburn, Robert Steedman at Beith, David Hunter at Saline, John Cleghorn at Weemys, Thomas Melvil at Secony, Thomas Tullidess at Markinch, Alexander Stoddart at Falkland, John Walker at Abdle, Andrew Mesoil at Cult, Hugh Glass at Kettle, James Hadow Principal of the new College of St. Andrews, Alexander Anderson at St. Andrews, James Nairn at Anstruther Easter, John Ferrier at Largo, Archibald Campbell Professor of Church History in the University of St. Andrews, Thomas Ogilvy at Conpar, Thomas Ayton at Alyth, David Thomson at Meigle, Hugh Maxwell at Fochat, George Ogilvie at Kirriemuir, Thomas Davidson at Dundee, John Ranken at Inchture, John Stewart at Tealline, William Hepburn at Inverkeilor, Robert Preston at Abereiot, David Fergusson at Farawell, John Cow-

Coupar at Montrose, James Muirison at Edgehill, William Arnot at Bervie, Andrew Thomson at Laurencekirk, Alexander Shank at St. Ceres, John Osburn Principal of the Maristhal College of Aberdeen, John Lumisden at Banchory, Archibald Napier at Mary-Coulter, Patrick Black at Peter-Coulter, George Chalmers Principal of the King's College of Aberdeen, James Chalmers Professor of Divinity in the Maristhal College of Aberdeen, Lewis Reid at Strachan, Alexander Garden at Birs, George Larg at Kinarnie, Thomas Reid at Lochell, Patrick Reid at Clatt, Theodore Gordon at Cabrach, John Webster at Cruden, John Rose at Logie, Alexander Simson at Monymusk, Alexander Turing at Oyne, Alexander Mearns at Inch, James Lesly at St. Fergus, William Hay at Crimond, Robert Farquhar at Peterhead, James Johnston at Montquhitter, James Wilson at Gemrie, James Innes at Bann, Andrew Ker at Rathven, John Scobie at Huntly, Alexander Ogilvy at Rynie, James Chapman at Cromdale, Lewis Chapman at Alves, Robert Duff at Aberlour, John Gilchrist at Boharm, George Gordon at Alves, James Dunbar at Duffus, Alexander Shaw at Edinkillie, William Porteus at Balort, James Lesly at Moy, William Baillie at Inverness, Hugh Campbell at Killinuir Wester, Alexander Reay at Avock, Hugh Monro at Taine, John M. Arthur at Logie-Easter, John Bayne at Dingwall, Hector M'Kenzie at Fothery, William Gordon at Glenmorison, Donald M'Queen at Egg, Donald Morison at Stornavoy, and Donald Ross at Lachbroom, Ministers; The most Honourable John Marquis of Tweeddale, the Right Honourable David Earl of Buchan, Thomas Earl of Haddington, Charles Earl of Lauderdale, Alexander Earl of Leven, Alexander Earl of Marchmont, James Earl of Hyndford, David Earl of Glasgow, Archibald Earl of Inlay, James Lord Aberdour, William Lord Ross, James Lord Grantoun, Francis Lord Napier, George Lord Reay, Sir Hugh Dalrymple of North-berwick Baronet Lord President of the Session, Duncan Forbes Esq. his Majesty's Advocate, Adam Cockburn of Ormiston Lord Justice Clerk, Mr. James Erskine of Grange, Sir William Calderwood of Porton, Sir Walter Pringle of Newhall, Sir Gilbert Elliot of Minto Baronet, Mr. Hugh Dalrymple of Drumore, Mr. Patrick Campbell of Monzie, Mr. Alexander Fraser of Strichen, and Mr. Patrick Grant of Elchies, Nine of the Senators of the College of Justice, Sir John Clerk of Pennycook Baronet one of the Barons of his Majesty's Exchequer, Mr. Charles Erskine of Barris his Majesty's Solicitor, Thomas Jamison Baillie at Kirk-

Kirkwall, *Jerom Denniston* of Noutland, Mr. *James Mitchell* of Girsday, *Archibald M'Anlay* Lord Conservator of the Scots Privileges at Campvere, Mr. *Charles Inglis* of Baberton, Mr. *Robert Stewart* and Mr. *Colin Drummond* Professors of Philology in the University at Edinburgh, *John Osburn* Lord Provost of Edinburgh, *William Wight* Deacon of the Baxters there, *George Dundas* of Dundas, Mr. *Alexander Hamilton* of Innerwick, Mr. *John Dundas* of Newhalls, Mr. *Alexander Menzies* of Culterallas, *James Nasmyth* of Earishaugh, Mr. *Robert Dundas* of Arnistoun Advocate, Mr. *Alexander Hamilton* of Pancatland, *Charles Brown* of Colstoun, *Sir Robert Dalrymple* of Castleton, Mr. *Thomas Hamilton* Advocate, Mr. *George Buchan* of Comlodge, *James Home* Writer to the Signet, Mr. *Charles Binning* of Pilmdre Advocate, *Alexander Ferrier* of Cowdenknows, *Robert Paterson* of Drygrange, *Robert Scot* of Burnhead, *William Kennedy* Merchant, *Alexander Fergusson* of Craigdarroch, *George Irvine* of Newton, *James Wells* Merchant, *James Currie* late Provost of Dumfries, *Sir Thomas Gordon* of Barnton Baronet, *John Brown* of Crichton, *Baillie Hugh Haskorn* Merchant in Edinburgh, Mr. *Hugh Dalrymple* Advocate, Mr. *James Boswell* of Auchinleck Advocate, the Honourable Colonel *William Dalrymple* of Gleninnoy, *James Orr* of Barrowfield, *Sir John Maxwell* of Pollock Baronet, *Alexander Finlayson* of Neillonside, *Sir John Inglis* of Gramond Baronet, *Sir James Lockhart* of Carstairs Baronet, *Sir Hugh Montgomery* of Skermerly Baronet, Mr. *James Bogle* Writer in Edinburgh, *Hugh Rogers* Provost of Glasgow, *William Cunningham* of Ballindalloch, Mr. *George Smollet* of Ingleton, *Sir James Campbell* of Ardkinghals Baronet, Mr. *Alexander M'William* of Donmore, Mr. *John Campbell* of Saccoth Advocate, *Colin Campbell* at Kibride, Esq; *Captain John Campbell*, *Sir Duncan Campbell* of Lochinell, Mr. *Archibald Campbell* of Stonfield, *Captain James Menzies* of Comrie, *Alexander Robertson* of Easter Straloch Elder, Mr. *Alexander Balcanhal* of Innermay, Mr. *Robert Craigie* of Glendalg Advocate, Mr. *Alexander Bruce* of Kennet Advocate, *Sir James Campbell* of Aberuchin Baronet, Colonel *John Baskin* of Camock, *William Cunningham* of Balbougie, *Robert Balfour* of Balbarny, Mr. *James M'Gill* of Rarkeillor, *William Simpson* of Balfrowie, *Sir Robert Anstruther* of Balfaskie, *Alexander Walker* of St. Ford, *Patrick Lindsay* Esq; late Provost of Edinburgh, *John Donblair* and *James Teaman* late Baillies of Dundee, *James Douglas* late Baillie of Aberbrothwick, *George Murray* Baillie of Montrose,

Charles Crockett late Baillie of Edinburgh, *Mr. Alexander Arbushnot* of Knox, *Robert Stewart* late Provost of Aberdeen, *James Muirison* late Provost of Aberdeen, *William Cruikshank* present Provost there, *John Ker* Professor of Philosophy in the King's College of Aberdeen, *Alexander Farquharson* of Monaltrie, *James Forbes* Uncle to the Laird of Alford, *James Innes* of Cotts, Captain *John Forbes* of Boyndley, *Mr. Alexander Gairden* of Troup Advocate, *Robert Stewart* Provost of Bamff, *Mr. William Duff* of Crombie Advocate, *Sir James Grant* of Grant Baronet, *Ludowick Colquhoun* of Luss Advocate, *Joseph Brodie* of Milntoun, *Cramond* Baillie of Elgin, *James Rose* of Brae, *Robert Urquhart* of Burgeyard, *John Forbes* of Cullodden, *John Hossack* Merchant in Inverness, *Alexander Gordon* of Ardoch, Captain *George Monro* of Culcairn, *Albert Monro* of Coul, and *Donald M'Niel* of Vaterfay, ruling Elders; to be Commissioners of this General Assembly, to the Effects aftermentioned, with Power to the said Commissioners, or their *Quorum*, which is hereby declared to be any Thirty one of the said Commissioners, whereof Twenty one are always to be Ministers, to meet and convene within the Assembly House at *Edinburgh*, the first free Day after the Dissolution of this Assembly, at Ten of the Clock Forenoon, and afterwards the second *Wednesdays* of *August*, *November*, and *March* next to come, and oftner when and where they shall think fit and convenient, with Power to the said Commissioners to chuse their own Moderator. And likewise, the General Assembly fully impowers and authorizes their said Commissioners, or their *Quorum* abovementioned, to cognosce and finally determine as they shall see Cause, in every Matter referred, or that shall be referred to them, by any Act or Order of this Assembly, and to do every Thing contained in and conform to the Instructions given, or to be given by this Assembly, and to advert to the Interest of the Church, on every Occasion, that the Church and present Establishment thereof, do not suffer or sustain any Prejudice which they can prevent, as they will be answerable; providing always, that this general Clause be not extended to particular Affairs, or Processes before Synods or Presbyteries, that are not of universal Concern to, or Influence upon the whole Church; And 'tis hereby appointed, that no private Processes be determined except at the four stated Diets, and what shall be determin'd at one Diet of the said Commission, with relation to private Causes, shall be unalterable by any other Diet thereof, and shall stand and continue in Force till disapproved by the

the General Assembly. And the General Assembly renews the Instructions given by the General Assembly *Anno* 1717 to their Commission, and appoints the same to stand in full Force as Instructions to the Commissioners above named, and to be observed by them in all Points, as if the same were specially here insert, and that they enquire into the publishing and spreading of Books and Pamphlets, tending towards the promoting of Opinions of whatever Kind, inconsistent with our Confession of Faith, and the Recommenders of such Books or Pamphlets, or the Errors therein contained, whether by Word, Writ or Print, be called before the said Commission to answer for the same. And further, the said Commission is hereby empowered to receive any References and Appeals that shall be made to them from Synods in Matters of Doctrine, and ripen such Affairs for the General Assembly; likewise to take Care that the Impressions of the holy Scriptures, the Confession of Faith and Catechisms, and such Books as are authorized by this Church, relating to the Doctrine, Worship, Discipline and Government thereof, be correct, and to give Directions about printing the same; they are also appointed at their first Meeting, to take under Consideration all Representations of the Growth of Popery within the Bounds of this National Church, and of Meeting-Houses not authorized by Law, which have been brought up to this and former Assemblies, or Commissions thereof, or may be further offered to this Commission, and to apply to the Government for a proper Remedy and speedy Redress. And the said Commissioners are hereby strictly prohibited and discharged to meddle in any other Matters than what are committed and referred to them as above mentioned; and in all their Actings, they are to proceed according to the Acts and Constitutions of this Church, and to do nothing contrary thereto, or to the Prejudice of the same; declaring, That in and for all their Actings, they shall be accountable to, and censurable by the next General Assembly, as they shall see Cause. And this Commission is to continue and endure until another Commission be appointed, and Members are required to attend the Diets of the said Commission, and Absents therefrom ordered to be noticed, according to the 17th Act of the General Assembly 1706: And for the better securing of a *Quorum* and Attendance of Members on the Commission, the General Assembly prohibits the Presbytery of *Edinburgh*, or any other Presbyteries within twelve Miles thereof, to meet any of the Days or Weeks appointed for the Meeting of this Commission, and such of the Members of

E

these

these Presbyteries as are on the Commission, are required all of them to give punctual Attendance on the Diets thereof; and Presbyteries at a greater Distance, who have four or more Members on the Commission, are to take Care, that at least two of them attend each Diet of the same.

VII.

Act and Sentence concerning Mr. Ebenezer Erskine, and some other Ministers adhering to his Protest, for their Contempt of the Authority of the General Assembly.

Edinburgh, May 15, 1733, ante merid. Sess. 12.

TH E General Assembly having at a former Diet considered an Appeal entred by Mr. *Ebenezer Erskine* Minister at *Stirling*, from a Sentence of the Synod of *Perth and Stirling*; wherein the said Synod had found Ground to censure him, and appointed him to be rebuked on Account of several indecent Expressions, uttered by him in a Sermon preached before the said Synod in *October* last; tending to disquiet the Peace of this Church; and impugning several Acts of Assembly and Proceedings of the Church Judicatories; And had appointed him to be admonished to behave orderly for the future. — The Assembly found these Expressions vented by Mr. *Erskine*, and contained in the Minutes of the foresaid Synod's Proceedings, with the Answers thereto made by him, to be offensive, and to tend to disturb the Peace and good Order of this Church: Therefore they approved the Proceedings of the Synod, and appointed him to be rebuked and admonished by the Moderator at their own Bar, in order to terminate the Process, which was done accordingly. But the foresaid Mr. *Ebenezer Erskine*, together with Mr. *William Wilson* Minister at *Perth*, Mr. *Alexander Moncrief* Minister at *Abernethy*, and Mr. *James Fisher* Minister at *Kincleaven*, gave in a Paper at the Assembly's Bar subscribed by them, craving and protesting that the same might be read and recorded in the Minutes of the Assembly: But the

the Assembly having represented to them the Irregularity and Danger of such a Practice, and desired them to withdraw their Paper and Protest, and they refusing to do it, and withdrawing; they were ordered to be cited to the next Diet, and a Committee was appointed to consider the Paper and their Conduct in this Affair, and to bring in by an Overture what might be fit for the Assembly to do upon the whole Affair. This Day the said four Brethren having compeared, the Assembly, to shew all Tenderness towards them, appointed a Committee to confer with them, and endeavour to persuade them to withdraw their Paper and Protest, and submit themselves to the Assembly: Who having retired, did return, and shewed that these four Brethren continued fully resolved to adhere to their said Paper and Protest. Then the Committee reported that they had considered the Paper given in by the foresaid Brethren the last Night, and the whole of their Conduct. The said Paper being produced, was read, the Tenor whereof follows.

PROTEST by Mr. Ebenezer Erskine and others, given in to the Assembly 1733.

ALTHO' I have a very great and dutiful Regard to the Judicatures of this Church, to whom I own my Subjection in the Lord, yet in Respect the Assembly have found me censurable, and have tendered a Rebuke and Admonition to me, for Things I conceive agreeable unto, and founded upon the Word of God and our approved Standards; I find myself obliged to protest against the foresaid Censure, as importing that I have in my Doctrine, at the Opening of the Synod of *Perth* October last, departed from the Word of God, and the foresaid Standards; and that I shall be at Liberty to preach the same Truths of God, and to testify against the same or like Detections of this Church upon all proper Occasions. And I do hereby adhere unto the Testimonies I have formerly emitted against the Act of Assembly 1732, whether in the Protest enter'd against it in open Assembly, or yet in my Synodical Sermon, craving this my Protest and Declaration be insert in the Records of Assembly, and that I be allowed Extracts thereof.

At *Edinburgh* May 14, 1733.

EBENEZER ERSKINE.

E 2

We

We Undersubscribing Ministers, Dissenters from the Sentence of the Synod of *Perth* and *Stirling*, do hereby adhere to the above Protestation and Declaration, containing a Testimony against the Act of Assembly 1732; and asserting our Privilege and Duty to testify publicly against the same or like Defections, upon all proper Occasions.

WILLIAM WILSON,
ALEX. MONCRIEFF.

I Mr. *James Fisher* Minister at *Kincleaven*, Appellant against the Sentence of the Synod of *Perth* in this Question, altho' the Committee of Bills did not think fit to transmit my Reasons of Appeal, find my self obliged to adhere unto the foresaid Protestation and Declaration.

J. FISHER.

The Committee offered their Overture upon the whole Affair: Which being read and considered, the Assembly, by a very great Majority, enacted and appointed as follows.

THE General Assembly ordains, That the four Brethren aforesaid appear before the Commission in *August* next, and then show their Sorrow for their Conduct and Misbehaviour, in offering to protest, and in giving in to this Assembly the Paper by them subscribed; and that they then retract the same. And in Case they do not appear before the said Commission in *August*, and then show their Sorrow, and retract as said is, the Commission is hereby impowered and appointed to suspend the saids Brethren, or such of them as shall not obey, from the Exercise of their Ministry. And further, in Case the saids Brethren shall be suspended by the said Commission, and that they shall act contrary to the said Sentence of Suspension, the Commission is hereby impowered and appointed at their Meeting in *November*, or any subsequent Meeting, to proceed to a higher Censure against the saids four Brethren, or such of them as shall continue to offend by transgressing this Act. And the General Assembly do appoint the several Presbyteries, of which the said Brethren are Members, to report to the Commission in *August*, and subsequent Meetings of it, their Conduct and Behaviour with respect to this Act.

VIII.

Act appointing the Diet of the next General Assembly.

Edinburgh 15th May, post. merid. Sess ult.



HE next General Assembly of this National Church, is appointed to be held at *Edinburgh*, upon the first *Thursday* of *May* next, in the Year One Thousand Seven Hundred and Thirty Four.

The General Assembly was concluded with Prayer, and singing a Part of the CXXII. Psalm from the 6th Verse to the Close, and pronouncing of the Blessing.

Collected and extracted from the Records of the General Assembly, by

WILLIAM GRANT *Clk. Eccl. Scot.*



F

TABLE

A
T A B L E
OF THE

Printed Acts of the General Assembly, held in the Year 1733.

- I. **THE** King's Commission to William Marquis of Lothian produced, and ordered to be recorded, 3
- II. The King's most gracious Letter to the General Assembly, 4
- III. The General Assembly's Answer to the King's most gracious Letter, 5
- VI. Commission to some Ministers and ruling Elders for Reformation of the Highlands and Islands of Scotland, and for Management of the King's Bounty for that End, 7
- V. Act concerning some of the Ministers of the Presbytery of Dumfries, and for preserving the Subordination of the Judicatures of the Church, and good Order therein. 10
- VI. Commission to some Ministers and ruling Elders for discussing diverse Affairs referred to them, 12
- VII. Act and Sentence concerning Mr. Ebenezer Erskine; and some other Ministers adhering to his Protest for their Contempt of the Authority of the General Assembly. 18
- VIII. Act appointing the Diet of the next General Assembly, 21

ABRIDG.

Index or Abridgment

OF THE

ACTS of the General Assembly of the Church of *Scotland*, held in the Year 1733, which are not printed at full Length.



AFTER Sermon by Mr. *Niel Campbel* Moderator of the former General Assembly, the Ministers and ruling Elders, Members of this Assembly, did convene, the Roll having been made up by the Sub-Clerk; and Mr. *William Grant* Principal

Clerk to the General Assembly being absent upon necessary Affairs, and excused, upon his Desire, signified by a Letter to the Moderator, Mr. *George Buchan* was authorised to supply his Place for this Time.

Mr. *John Gowdie* one of the Ministers of *Edinburgh* was chosen Moderator, *May* 3d, 1733, *Sess.* 1.

The King's Commission to the Marquis of *Lothian* to represent his Royal Person in this Assembly, read and recorded. *Ibid.*

His Grace his Majesty's Commissioner's Speech at Opening the Assembly, and the Moderator's in Return thereto. *Ibid.*

A Committee named to draw an Answer to his Majesty's gracious Letter. *Ibid.*

A Committee for Overtures. Also a Committee for *Bills*, *References*, and *Appeals*, nam'd. *Ibid.*

A Committee for examining *Commissions* to Members of this Assembly, to censure Absents, to name Ministers to preach before the King's Commissioner, and to receive in the Lists of Probationers and Students in Divinity. *Ibid.*

A Diet spent in Prayer. *May* 4th, *Sess.* 2.

Ministers nam'd to preach before his Majesty's Commissioner the next, and the following Lord's Days. *Ibid.*

I N D E X.

New Comissions produced, and Additions made to Committees. *May 5th, Sess. 3.*

An *Answer* to the King's most gracious *Letter* being approved, the Lord Commissioner undertakes to transmit the same to his Majesty. *Ibid.*

The whole Comissions to Members of this Assembly sustain'd. Mr. *John Webster* Commissioner from the Presbytery of *Ellon*, whose Commission was defective, having declar'd that he already had signed the *Formula*, and the Assembly found that the Presbytery of *Brichen* ought to have attested Baillie *Charles Crockat's* Commission, as Representative from the Town of *Montrose*. *Ibid.*

A Committee nominated for revising the Register of the Proceedings of the Commission of the last Assembly, and to examine the Procurator and Agent for the Church their Accounts, consider the State of the Church's *publick Money*, also References by the late Commission to this Assembly, and prepare Overtures upon the whole. *Ibid.*

A Committee appointed for revising the *Register* of the Committee of the late Assembly for Management of his Majesty's Bounty for reforming the *Highlands and Islands*. *Ibid.*

Mr. *George Fordice* named to receive in *Liffs* of Probationers and Students in Divinity. *Ibid.*

Visitors appointed for the Synod Books of *Orkney, Lothian, Merse, Galloway, Glasgow, Perth, Fife, Ross and Glenelg*. *Ibid.*

A Committee named to receive and class the *Instructions* from Presbyteries, and *Overtures* from Synods, and to report to the Committee for Overtures. *Ibid.*

Upon a Complaint for Sir *John Bruce* and others of the Parish of *Kinross* against the Presbytery of *Dumfermline*, for their refusing to receive and enroll Mr. *Robert Stark* Minister at *Kinross*, as a Member of the Presbytery, in Obedience to an Act of the General Assembly *May 1732*, and two several Appointments of the Commission in *November* and *March* last, a Warrant was ordered to be issued for summoning several Brethren Members of that Presbytery, with the Presbytery Clerk, to compear before the Assembly upon *Thursday* next at Ten Forenoon, to give the Reasons why they did not obey the said Act and Appointments. And some Ministers, Members of the said Presbytery, present at the Assembly Bar, were cited *apud acta* to that Diet. *Ibid.*

Some more Visitors appointed for the Synod Books of *Galloway and Glenelg*. *May 7th, Sess. 4.*

The

I N D E X.

The Sentences of the Synod of *Glasgow* and *Air* and Presbytery of *Paisley*, sustaining a Call to Mr. *Alexander Clark* Probationer to be Minister at *Nielson* affirm'd, and the said Presbytery appointed to proceed to his Trials and Settlement as Minister of that Parish.

Ibid.

A Remit to the Committee for Overtures to consider an Appeal of Mr. *Ebenezer Erskine* Minister of *Stirling*, from a Sentence of the Synod of *Perth*, upon Account of a Sermon he had preached before them, and to prepare some proper Overture for facilitating the Assembly's Procedure therein. *Ibid.*

A Resolve to take in a Cause anent planting the Parish of *Stow*, after discussing whereof, agreed to proceed to consider a Reference from the Synod of *Aberdeen*, relating to the Election of a *Professor of Divinity* in the King's College of *Aberdeen*. *Ibid.*

Some new Commissions produced, and Additions made to Committees. *May 8th, Sess. 5.*

Mr. *David Duncan* Probationer appointed to be settled Minister at *Stow*, with all convenient Speed. *Ibid.*

A Committee named to consider the Reference concerning a *Professor of Divinity* in the King's College at *Aberdeen*. *Ibid.*

Intimation to such as had any Instructions or Letters for the Committee for the Royal Bounty for Reformation of the *Highlands*, to give them in at the Society for Christian Knowledge their Hall Tomorrow and *Thursday* at Nine of the Morning. *Ibid.*

A new Commission produced. *May 9th, Sess. 6.*

A Resolve to enter upon the Affair of Mr. *Ebenezer Erskine's* Appeal, after receiving the Business anent the Presbytery of *Dumfermline*. *Ibid.*

The Cause anent Election of a *Professor of Divinity* at *Aberdeen* being heard; the Assembly find that 'tis not fit for them to enter on the Decision thereof, but remitted to a Committee to bring in an Overture, what Advice it may be proper for the Assembly to give thereanent. *Ibid.*

Addresses from the Synods of *Perth* and *Ross*, and Presbytery of *Meikle*, against spreading of Errors, &c. remitted to the Committee for Instructions. *Ibid.*

The Procurator and Agent for the Church their Accounts laid upon the Table, to be perused by any of the Members who incline to inspect the same. *May 10th, Sess. 7.*

Mr. *James Buchan* remitted to be taken on Trials before the Presbytery of *Zetland*, in order to be licenced to preach the Gospel. *Ibid.*

I N D E X.

The Visitors of the *Commission Book* having made their Report, the Book is attested in the ordinary Form, and the Commissioners get the Assembly's Thanks for their Diligence. *Ibid.* The Ministers of the Presbytery of *Dumfermline* summon'd by Order on *Saturday* last to this Diet compar'd, (except two whose Excuses were sustain'd) and their *Complaint* against the Commission of the last Assembly, as having no Power to meddle in the Affair of Mr. *Stark's* Inrollment, heard, and the Commission affoizied therefrom; and a Committee named to commune with these Brethren for removing their Scruples, and prepare an Overture upon the whole Affair. *Ibid.*

A Letter from the Lord *Reay*, and another from the Presbytery of *Tongue*, bearing, that his Lordship had settled a School with a competent Sallary in each of the three Parishes of *Tongue*, *Diurness*, and *Edderackillis*. May 11th, *Sess.* 8.

The Report of the Committee appointed by a former General Assembly and Commission, for enquiring into the State of the new Parishes of *Diurness*, *Tongue* and *Edderackillis*, and examining the Accounts of the Contributions for the same, and Disbursements thereof, bearing, that the Teinds of these three Parishes are allow'd for Stipends, and that for Additions thereto *L.* 1500 *Sterl.* of the Contribution made through *Scotland*, is heritably secured on the Estate of *Sanside* in the Parish of *Reay*, and the Interest of the same is assign'd to the Ministers of these three Parishes, except of 1000 Merks; That the Lord *Reay* is superexpended in the Sum of *L.* 1282 3 s. 2 d. *Scots*, which his Lordship passes from; that sufficient new Churches are built for the abovenamed three Parishes; also Mansees, and Glebes and Grass legally designed by the Presbytery. And proposing, that the said Interest of the foresaid 1000 Merks be assigned to the Minister of *Tongue* as an Augmentation to his Stipend; that this good Work being now finished, the Lord *Reay*, *Nicol Spence* Agent for the Church, and the Representatives of Mr. *John Dundas* late Procurator thereto, be discharged of their Intromissions with the foresaid Contribution, and their Management in that Matter approved, and the Writs and Securities lodged with the Agent for the Church, and a Letter of Thanks order'd for the Lord *Reay* for his Christian Zeal in this Matter, which Report the Assembly approved. *Ibid.*

The Reference concerning the Election of a Professor of Divinity at *Aberdeen simpliciter* dismiss'd. *Ibid.*

The Committee's Report anent the Presbytery of *Dumfermline* brought in, viz. " That severals of the Brethren
" ren

I N D E X.

- “ren of that Presbytery could not agree to any active
 “Inrollment of Mr. *Stark* Minister of *Kinross* as a
 “Member of their Presbytery.” And the Assembly
 order’d them to retire with all the Brethren in Town,
 and constitute into a Presbytery, and receive and in-
 roll Mr. *Stark* as a Member, and return a particular
 Report of the Behaviour of each Member, which be-
 ing done, and Report made, the Assembly find the
 Majority of the Presbytery to be for inrolling Mr.
Stark; and therefore appoint a second Meeting of the
 Presbytery to enroll him judicially, to be reported To-
 morrow, and mean time a Committee named to con-
 sider what Censure may be proper to inflict upon the
 disobedient Ministers of that Presbytery. *Ibid.*
- Appeal of the Parishioners of *Stephen-kirk*, and of Mr.
Hugh Mitchel Probationer from the Synod of *Galloway*,
 referred to the Commission. *Ibid.*
- Commissioners from Presbyteries in the several Synods ap-
 pointed to meet, and bring in the Nominators of the
 Commission. *Ibid.*
- Process anent planting the Parish of *Kingoldrum* referred
 to a Committee. *Ibid.*
- A List of Persons in the several Synods brought in, and ap-
 pointed as a Committee for drawing up the Commission to
 be given by this Assembly, naming the Members thereof,
 and preparing Instructions for them. *May 12th, Sess. 9.*
- Upon Report of the Committee for revising the Register
 of the Committee for Reformation of the *High-lands*, and *Islands*, and of the Distribution of the
Royal Bounty for that End, the same were approv’n;
 and they appointed to name a new Committee for the
 ensuing Year, and prepare a Commission, with In-
 structions to them. *Ibid.*
- A Process concerning the planting of *Falkirk* brought
 in, and delayed. *Ibid.*
- Report of the Committee anent the Brethren of *Dum-fermline* brought in, with the Minutes of the Presby-
 tery, and a Paper given in by the disobedient Breth-
 ren, and the whole delayed till *Monday* next. *Ibid.*
- The Sentence of the Presbytery of *Meigle*, concerning
 the planting of the vacant Church of *Kingoldrum*, sus-
 taining the Call to Mr. *Hugh White* reversed, and
 the Call to Mr. *Thomas Whitehead*, sustained, and
 that Presbytery appointed to proceed to his Trials and
 Settlement as Minister of the said Parish, according to
 the Rules of this Church, and the Commission instruct-
 ed finally to determine in any Question may be brought
 before them, with relation to the said Trials and Set-
 tlement. *Ibid.*

I N D E X.

The Commission are impowered to determine finally in any Reference or Appeal that shall be brought before them, concerning the Trials and Settlement of Mr. *David Duncan* as Minister of *Stow*. *Ibid.*

Report concerning the Diligence of the Procurator and Agent for the Church as to the Affairs committed to them; particularly concerning the Grievances of the Ministers of *Strath* and *Applecross*, and others in the Bounds of the Synod of *Glenelg*, and what remains thereof yet to be done; and they directed to carry on the Process of Disjunction and new Erection in *South Uist* and *Bara*; also that for a Minister to the Isle of *Coll*, with a Reference to the Commission, and also to the Committee for Reformation of the *Highlands* thereanent. *Ibid.*

The said Report, bearing, That the Money collected for building a Bridge over the Water of *Dee* near *Ballader* shall be lent out on Annualrent, till so much come in as is sufficient to begin that Work; That a Decreet of Adjudication is obtained against the Heirs of *John Martin* for the Ballance that was in his Hand of the Collection for the Protestant Refugees of *Hildburghausen*, and new Church for the Presbyterian Congregation in *New-York*, and the Procurator and Agent for the Church, at the Sight of the Moderator and other Members of this Assembly from the Presbytery of *Edinburgh*, are impowered to transact that Matter, and grant the needful Securities thereanent. *Ibid.*

A Deed for securing the Fabrick of the Church in *New-York* to the Presbyterians there, recorded; and it is ordered that Letters be of new wrote to Deficients to pay in their Contributions for refounding Dr. *John Nicol*, who had taken the Debt of that Church on himself. *Ibid.*

Appointed the Procurator and Agent for the Church to carry on the Processes for transporting the Church and Manse of *Contane*, Settlement of the Stipends of the Ministers of *Foddertie* and *Gigha*, and for a Minister to the Isle of *Cole*, with a Reference to the Commission concerning *Gigha* and *Cole*, and to the Committee for Reformation. *Ibid.*

The Expences of a second Process concerning the Stipend of *Glenmuck* refused, the same not being at the Minister's Instance; and find that the Commission had no Power to meddle in disposing of the Church's publick Money, the Expences of the first Process anent that Stipend, having been borne out of the foresaid Money. *Ibid.*

The

I N D E X.

The Claim of Mr. *William Innes* at *Thurso* presented to the General Assembly *Anno* 1723, being 55 *l.* sustained; but Annualrents refused; also the Claim of 16 *l.* 13 *s.* 4 *d.* due to Mr. *William Rose* at *Kildonan* and Mr. *Andrew Ker* lately Minister at *Kirkwall*, allowed Five Pound *Sterling* of Principal and Annualrent in full of all his Claims in Settlement of the Stipends of *Walls* and *Kirkwall*, he discharging the same, his present Stipend at *Rathven* having been settled on the publick Charges. The Claims of *Margaret Ross*, Mr. *Robert Abercrombie* and Presbytery of *Longisland*, found still resting, tho' sustain'd, but the Claims of Mr. *Daniel Morison*, Mr. *John M' Aul*, Mr. *Patrick Scot*, Mr. *Thomas Hay* delayed, their particular Accounts not being given in, no Opinion was given upon them, nor yet as to the Claims of Commissioners from some remote Presbyteries to the General Assemblies, *Annis* 1730 and 1731. *Ibid.*

A new Bail-bond given in for Mr. *William Grant*'s being accountable for the Church's publick Money in Place of a former, with a Cautioner, now deceased; and that new Bond lodged with the Agent for the Church. *Ibid.*

Former Orders concerning synodical and Presbyterial Libraries renewed, in so far as not already observed. *Ibid.*

A Letter from Mr. *William Grant* Clerk to the General Assembly, now at *London*, concerning some Copies of the old Registers of this Church, which are in a private Hand there; and a Committee appointed to consider and treat on the Proposals therein mentioned. *Ibid.*

The Moderator of this Assembly appointed to sign the Registers of the General Assemblies *Annis* 1727, 1728, and 1730, the Moderators of these Assemblies having been removed by Death before filling up the saids Registers these Years, and ordered authentick Copies of the Registers of this Church to be lodged, for Preservation, according to the 14. Act of the General Assembly 1712. *Ibid.*

A Recommendation of the late Assembly to the Society in Scotland for propagating Christian Knowledge, and their Committee concerning 20,000 *l.* provided by Act of Parliament for Schools in the Highlands, renewed, and a Reference to the Commission thereanent. *Ibid.*

Act approving the Accounts of Mr. *William Grant* Procurator for the Church his Intromissions with his Majesty's Allowance for defraying the publick Charges of the Church paid in at *Midsummer* last, and preceedings, and he and his Cautioner discharged thereof, except a Balance of *L.* 8. 17 *s.* 11 *d.* *Sterl.* which is to be stated in his next Accounts. *Ibid.*

I N D E X.

Act approving of the Accounts of *Nicol Spence* Agent for the Church, as to the 150 l. lodged in his Hand for Incidents, and defraying the Expences of Proceses, authorised by the General Assembly, preceeding the first of *May* current, finding that there is a Ballance of L. 118 l. 9 s. 9 d. due to him; and discharging him of his Intromissions mentioned in the foresaid Accounts, and all Preceedings, and ordering that he be paid of the said Ballance, with Interest and Preference according to former Acts and Orders. *Ibid.*

Act sustaining the Accounts of *Mr. James Davidson* and *Robert Fleming* Printers to the Church, beginning *May* 1731, and ending the 4th *May* current, finding that there is due to them L. 20 2 s. 8 d. *Sterling*, and ordering Payment thereof. *Ibid.*

Reference to the Commission finally to determine in a Competition of Calls to *Mr. James Pursel* and *Mr. James Ritchie* Probationers, anent planting the vacant Church of *Troquire*. *Ibid.*

Reference to the Commission concerning some Overtures for a Fund to maintain the indigent *Widows* and *Children* of *Ministers*, with Power to receive any further Proposals may be offered to them thereanent, and to do what they judge proper for forwarding that Purpose. *Ibid.*

Reference to the Commission of a Process concerning the Settlement of *Mr. Richard Bell* Probationer, at *Portmoak*. *Ibid.*

Reference to the Commission finally to determine in any Question that may come regularly before them concerning the alledged disorderly Practices of *Mr. Thomas Nairn* Minister at *Abotschal*. *Ibid.*

Reference to the Commission of an Appeal, and Petition of some of the Heritors of *Culross* against the Kirk-Session thereof, with Power finally to determine therein, and fixing Procedure till the Commission give their Decision in the Affair. *Ibid.*

Recommendation to all charitable Persons within the Bounds of the Synods of *Lothian* and *Tweeddale*, *Merse* and *Teviotdale*, *Drumfries*, *Galloway*, *Glasgow* and *Air*, *Perth* and *Stirling*, and *Fife*, to contribute towards the Relief of *William Blaine* and *John Dick*, as to the great Loss they have sustained in building a Bridge over the Water of *Stincher* in the Parish of *Calmunel*. *Ibid.*

Some Overtures from the Synods of *Lothian* and *Tweeddale*, *Merse* and *Teviotdale*, concerning Bursaries, transmitted to the several Synods in this Church, and they to report their Opinion concerning the same to the ensuing General Assembly. *Ibid.*

His

I N D E X.

His Majesty's *Royal Warrant* for 1000 *l. Sterl.* towards reforming the *Highlands* and *Islands* produced and recorded, and a Committee named to prepare the Draught of a Letter of Thanks to his Majesty for this charitable Donation. *May 14th, ante merid. Sess. 10.*

The Report of the Committee for drawing the *Commission* and *Instructions* to the Committee for Distribution of the foresaid *Royal Bounty*, approven. *Ibid.*

Petition of the Presbytery of *Inverness*, for a Preacher to *Kiltarlary* and *Kilmorack*, referred to the Committee for managing the *Royal Bounty* for Reformation of the *Highlands*. *Ibid.*

The recusant Brethren of the Presbytery of *Dumfermline* rebuked at the Bar of the Assembly, and an Overture anent their Behaviour approven, and past into an Act. *Ibid.*

The Report of a Committee appointed to bring in the Draught of the *Commission*, and *Instructions* to, and naming the *Members* of the *Commission* of this Assembly, approven. *Ibid.*

A Remit to the *Commission* to enter in their Register a Report of a Committee of the *Commission* of the late Assembly appointed to correspond with the Presbytery of *Meigle*, in settling of the Parish of *Eassie* and *Nevoay*, and to give furth Extracts of Mr. *David Maxwell's* Ordination and Settlement as Minister of that Parish. *Ibid.*

Mr. *Ebenezer Erskine* rebuk'd for some Expressions emitted by him in a Sermon preach'd before the Synod of *Perth* and *Stirling*, and a Committee nam'd to consider the Contents of a Paper given in to the Assembly by him and other three Ministers his Adherents. *Eod. die, post merid. Sess. 11.*

The Draught of a Letter of Thanks to the King for his *Royal Bounty* brought in, approven, and ordered to be subscribed by the Moderator. *May 15, Sess. 12.*

Act anent Mr. *Ebenezer Erskine* and others, approven. *Ibid.*

Reference to the *Commission* to judge in any Reference or Appeal that may be regularly brought before them anent planting the Parishes of *Stitchel*, *Auchtermuchty*, *St. Ninians*, *Aberdour*, and any Vacancies of the Churches in the City of *Edinburgh*.

The *Commission* is impowered finally to determine not only in a Process already depending anent planting the Parish of *Muckhart*, but also in any Question may be brought before them in Course of its Settlement, *Ibid.*

The distressed Case of *James Gordon* of *Craighlaw*, on Account of his Family's Sufferings, set forth in his Petition; also a Recommendation or Attestation of the

I N D E X.

- Synod of *Galloway* remitted to the Commission to do what they judge proper for his Relief. *Ibid.*
- The Petition of *Donald M'Gillivie* Student in Divinity, craving a Burs, is remitted to the Commission. *Ibid.*
- 'Tis referred to the Commission to consider the Petition and Appeal of *William Dudgeon* Tenant in *Lendelhill*, from the Synod of *Merse* and Presbytery of *Chirnside's* Sentences against him, on Account of alledged Error, and to do therein as they see Cause. *Ibid.*
- The Commission is instructed finally to determine in any Question may arise anent planting the Parish of *Preston-Kirk*, either by Reference or Appeal from the Presbytery or Synod. *Ibid.*
- The Synod Books of *Orkney, Lothian and Tweedale, Merse and Teviotdale, Galloway, Glasgow, Perth, Fife, and Ross*, attested in the usual Form. *Ibid.*
- The Synod Books of *Sutherland, Argyle, Dumfries, Angus, Aberdeen, Murray, and Presbytery Book of Zetland*, not being brought up, it was order'd that the same be laid before the next General Assembly. *Ibid.*
- Petitions for *Robert Lesly* late Shipmaster at *Fraserburgh*, *John How* and *Margaret Spence* his Spouse, and *Elizabeth Morton*, Relict of *James Seton* late Janitor of the College of *Edinburgh*, craving Charity, delay'd till the Afternoon, and a Collection to be made in the Assembly at that Time, for their Relief. *Ibid.*
- The Assembly found the Process depending before the Synod of *Fife* and Presbytery of *Coupar*, against Mr. *William Greenlees* Minister of *Ceres*, was concluded by an Act of the Commission of the last General Assembly, and he assolizied from the whole Articles thereof. *Ibid.*
- Protestation was admitted at the Instance of *Sir Michael Stewart* of *Blackhall* and other Parishioners of *Mearns*, Callers of Mr. *George M'Vey* Probationer, against other Heritors of that Parish, Opposers thereof, Appellants from the Synod of *Glasgow* and *Air* their Sentence, sustaining the said Call, and the Assembly declare the said Appeal void and null. *Ibid.*
- Admitted Protestation against Mr. *John Lawson* Probationer for not insisting in his Appeal from the Sentences of the Synod of *Angus*, and Presbytery of *Brichen* in a Process against him for Scandal, and his Appeal is declar'd deserted and fallen from. *Ibid.*
- The Absence of Commissioners from the Presbytery of *Tongue* was excused, upon a Letter produced therefrom. *Eodem die, post merid. Sess. ult.*
- The Process anent planting the Parish of *Falkirk* referred to the Commission at their first Meeting, after rising of the Assembly. *Ibid.*
- Re-

I N D E X.

Reference to the Commission to judge in any Process concerning the Settlement of the Parish of *Urquhart*. *Ibid.*

A Committee nam'd to meet with the *Presbytery* of *Dumfermline* at the Church of *Kinross* upon the *First* of *August* next, to deal with the Parishioners of *Kinross* to submit to Mr. *Stark's* Ministry. *Ibid.*

Mr. *Colin Campbel*, Mr. *John M^r Alister*, and Mr. *Patrick Grant*, Students in Divinity, referred to the Commission to be by them recommended to Presbyteries, in order to pals Trials. *Ibid.*

Some Ministers named to distribute among Petitioners for Charity, a Collection made in the Assembly for their Relief. *Ibid.*

Mr. *Joseph Cave* Treasurer to the Society for propagating Christian Knowledge, added as a Member of the Commission. *Ibid.*

The Lists of *Probationers* and *Students* in Divinity given in, and the *Probationers* Names ordered to be recorded. *Ibid.*

A Committee appointed to revise this Assembly's Proceedings, and to give Orders about printing such of the Acts thereof, as are to be standing Rules, and are of publick Use. *Ibid.*

The Synod Book of *Glenelg* attested in the usual Form. *Ibid.*

The Minutes of this Day's *Sederunt* were read. *Ibid.*

The Moderator's Speeches to the Assembly and King's Commissioner. *Ibid.*

His Majesty's Commissioner made a Speech, and then the Assembly was concluded. *Ibid.*

F I N I S.

Advertisement.

THE whole printed Acts of the General Assembly of the Church of SCOTLAND, beginning with the Year 1638 to this present Time, are to be sold by John Paton at his Shop in the Parliament Closs at Edinburgh; and if any Persons have loose Copies of some of these Acts in Folio, and want others, they may send the same in to the said John Paton, who will make them up compleat, and bind them at reasonable Rates: As also Sir James Stewart's alphabetical Abridgment of the whole Scots Acts of Parliament, including the Articles of the Union at Length, and Mr. Dundas of Philpston's Abridgment of the Acts of Assembly, are to be sold at the foresaid Shop.